

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/764,406

Applicant(s)

NEWMAN, PAUL F.

Examiner

James F. Sugent

Art Unit

2116

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment After Non-Final February 15, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,4,7-11,14-18,21,22,28,31 and 32.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is sent in response to Applicant's Communication received February 15, 2007 for application number 10/764,406 originally filed January 23, 2004. The Office hereby acknowledges receipt of the following and placed of record in file: amended claims 1-32 (wherein claims 2, 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 23-27, 29 and 30 are canceled) presented for examination.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7-11, 14-18, 21, 22, 28, 31 and 32 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- In re claim 1, Barkatullah discloses the limitations of: a clock source (Fig. 1); a first circuit to generate a first data signal (column 4, line 66 thru column 5, line 25); a flip-flop having a pair of inputs coupled to the clock source and the first circuit (Fig. 8C); a clock production circuit, coupled to the clock source, and responsive to the clock source to generate a synchronized clock (Fig. 7 and column 8, line 39 thru column 9, line 24); a downstream latch having a pair of inputs, coupled to the clock production circuit and the flip-flop, and an output to generate an output signal in response to the data signal and the synchronized clock (column 9, line 36 thru column 10, line 13); and wherein the data signal is operable to synchronize an arrival of the clock edge at the downstream latch

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(column 4, line 66 thru column 5, lines 25 and column 8, line 39 thru column 9, line 24 and column 9, lines 36 thru column 10, line 13).

- Also in re claim 1, Neal teaches the limitations of: the first circuit is coupled to a first voltage source; a first level shifter to generate a level shifted data signal; and, a second level shifter and a delay element both coupled to create a delayed, level-shifted clock signal (column 5, lines 15-58 and column 5, line 59 thru column 6, line 29).

However, neither Barkatullah nor Neal, either singularly or in combination, include the limitations of the flip-flop having a master latch and an upstream slave latch coupled to the master latch; and, the second level shifter coupled between the clock source and the downstream slave latch and in series with the delay element. Therefore, claim 1 is deemed allowable over prior art. Furthermore, dependent claims 3, 4 and 7-9 are also allowed.

Likewise, independent claims 10, 16 and 28 comprise similar limitations to claim 1 and are also deemed allowable over prior art. Therefore, dependent claims 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 31 and 32 are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to James Sugent whose telephone number is (571) 272-5726. The Examiner can normally be reached on 8AM - 4PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Rehana Perveen can be reached on (571) 272-3676. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call (800) 786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or (571) 272-1000.

James F. Sugent
Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2116
April 25, 2007


REHANA PERVEEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
4/26/07